

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 61

Section 1

September 25, 1940.

WICKARD SPEAKS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Secretary Wickard spoke last night at State College, Pennsylvania, on "Agricultural Unity, The Front Line of Defense."

OLD BELT TOBACCO PRICES OPEN HIGH

From Richmond, September 24, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that flue-cured leaf tobacco sales opened on Virginia's Old Belt warehouse floors Tuesday with initial prices firm and, in some instances, higher than last year's opening prices. Auctioneers in Danville sold 100,000 pounds of bright yellow leaf during the first few minutes of sales, and averages of all grades ran slightly better than 20¢ a pound.

U.S. EXPECTS LATIN AMERICAS TO HELP - PIERSON

From Buenos Aires, September 24, the UP says that Warren Lee Pierson of the Export-Import Bank indicated Tuesday that the U. S. expects the collaboration of Latin American republics in preventing the infiltration of totalitarian trade methods in this hemisphere. Mr. Pierson refused to comment directly on Argentina's temporary suspension of dollar exchange permits, but said that "We always like to get fair treatment and we expect to get it."

MILK STRIKE VOTED IN SEVEN N.Y. COUNTIES

From Utica, New York, a New York Times dispatch, September 24, says that Archie Wright and other Dairy Farmers Union leaders Tuesday received reports from seven counties advocating a strike in protest over the base price of \$1.81 a hundredweight for milk of 3.5 butterfat content in August.

NORTH CHINA FACING FAMINE

A Peiping dispatch to the New York Times, September 24, says that all indications point to millions of Chinese people facing a severe food shortage with the approach of winter. It is also expected that prices of food and other necessary commodities will skyrocket.

Argentina Denies
Embargo On Goods

The New York Times, September 25, says that the Argentine Information Bureau in New York received a telegram from Buenos Aires Tuesday which states that the action of the Argentine Control Commission in temporarily delaying requests for dollar exchange does not mean a ban on imports of U. S. goods. The Commission said that the "short postponement" was thought advisable "in order to adapt the permits granted to the essential requirements of the country, endeavoring as far as possible, to satisfy those requirements with the exchange available."

Urge Britain To
Buy Citrus Crop

A New York Times dispatch from Jerusalem, September 23, says that the Arab and Jewish citrus planters conferred amicably Monday and that it was unanimously decided to urge the British Government to purchase the entire season's citrus crop, which would be otherwise unexportable owing to shipping difficulties.

Brazil To Retain
Coffee Policy

From Rio de Janeiro, September 24, a New York Times dispatch says that Brazil's coffee policy is to continue as in the last two years, as the valorization scheme urged by certain groups of coffee growers has been thrown in the waste basket by the National Coffee Convention, which ended Tuesday.

BAE Reviews Farm
Income Situation

Cash income from farm marketings and Government payments in August totaled 738 million dollars, compared with the revised estimate of 708 million dollars in July and 717 million dollars in August 1939. The increase in income from farm marketings from July to August this year was slightly less than usual, as the lateness of the cotton and tobacco crops resulted in the marketing of smaller than usual proportions of these crops during August, and income from meat animals increased slightly less than usual during this period. Cash income from farm marketings in August amounted to 696 million dollars, compared with 675 million dollars in August last year. Income from grains, fruits and vegetables was larger than in August last year, but because of the sharp decline in income from tobacco and cotton, total income from crops was 300 million dollars in August 1940 compared with 308 million dollars in August last year. (BAE)

Wheat Futures
React Lower

The AP, September 25, reports that Chicago wheat was a bit reactionary Tuesday closing unchanged to 1 cent a bushel lower. Corn was unchanged to $\frac{1}{4}$ cent up.

Army Depot Lets The New York Herald Tribune, September 25, says
Textile Contracts that contracts on large amounts of textile supplies
for the Army were awarded at the Army Quartermaster
Depot in Philadelphia Tuesday, including the following: Denim working
hats, 672,934; one-piece work suits, 125,000; woolen under-drawers,
893,708; woolen undershirts, 1,029,297.

Wheat Crop A 60,000 increase in the number of winter wheat
Insurande insurance contracts over last year set a record
total of 365,838 contracts for the 1941 crop
insurance program, Leroy K. Smith, manager of the Federal Crop Insurance
Corporation, announced today. Approximately 305,000 contracts were
written on the 1940 winter wheat crop.

Food Stamp Secretary Wickard Tuesday announced that the
Extensions Food Stamp Plan will be extended to three Mississippi
areas. The first covers the counties of Lowndes,
Clay, Oktibbeha, and Noxubee, including the city of Columbus; the
second, the counties of Hinds and Warren, including the city of Jackson;
the third, the counties of Lauderdale, Kemper, and Clarke, including
the city of Meridian.

Weather According to the Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin,
Report high temperatures and the lack of rainfall intensified
droughty conditions over large areas in the central
and eastern States, with generous, widespread rain badly needed. How-
ever, by the morning of the 24th, resulting from the tropical depression
over the lower Mississippi Valley and an extensive cool, polar-air mass
to the northward, rain had begun in most sections between the Appalachian
and Rocky Mountains, although up to the close of the week, the falls had
been light generally in the central valleys and much of the South. High
temperatures and abundant sunshine hastened the maturity of crops
throughout the principal agricultural sections of the country and farm
work made good advance, except that large areas continued too dry for
plowing and seeding. The drought has become severe in the Southeast
and many interior localities, with a good many reports of water shortage
and hauling necessary for domestic purposes.

Under the influence of high temperatures and mostly dry weather the
corn crop made excellent progress towards maturity throughout the principal
producing States. From the Ohio Valley eastward much corn is now safe from
frost and the crop is practically made in Missouri.

Cotton bolls continued to open rapidly during the week and picking
made excellent progress. Temperatures were high and there was little
rainfall in the principal-producing sections until near the close of
the week when showers were rather general in central areas of the belt.

Argentina Looks
To Tung Industry

The Baltimore Sun, September 22, says that Argentina is now investigating the possibilities of a large tung oil industry in that country.

Experimental Stations have been working on this project for some time, and now the Ministry of Agriculture has announced that the tests were successful and has commenced to distribute plantings. Argentina hopes to find a ready market in the U.S., which imported heavily from China until the Japanese aggression took place.

Country Editor
Chief Ally Of
County Agent

The American Press, September, contains an article by M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, in which he says that the country editor is the chief ally of the county agent. Mr. Wilson says that this alliance has brought about, within the past thirty years, "a revolution in farming methods." This "revolution" consists of soil saving practices, crop diversification and rotation and the other practices that are making the farmer more self-sufficient and are making his land more arable.

Suggests Farm
Tenancy Research

Otis Durant Duncan of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College writes on "A Sociological Approach to Farm Tenancy Research" in Rural Sociology for September. The thesis of this paper is that farm tenancy is an attempted adaptation of land and other resources to human needs through definite socially sanctioned institutional channels. There is need for more specific research on tenancy as a purely sociological phenomenon. Mr. Duncan suggests fifteen definite propositions to be tested in research.

Forest Fire
Fighting By
Parachutists

In U. S. Air Services, September, Armella C. Friedl, of the Forest Service, writes on the use of parachutes in fighting forest fires. Experiments were started with fire-fighting parachutists in the fall of 1939, and all the jumps have been successful, "even those that landed in Douglas fir trees as high as 135 feet."

Agricultural
Colonization
In Palestine

Joseph Wechsler Eaton writes, in Rural Sociology for September, on "Jewish Agricultural Colonization in Palestine." Mr. Eaton says that, in the present set-up in the Holy Land, about a third of the Jewish colonies are collectives, with a communal household and without private property. Another third are cooperatives, with individual management of farms but cooperative buying and selling of goods, and the rest are settlements of fully independent farmers. Together they are an experiment in the establishment of a new democratic social system, which attempts more adequately to adjust our society to its complex technology.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 62

Section 1

September 26, 1940.

SOY BEAN LOAN EXPECTED

According to the "Washington Situation" column in the New York Journal of Commerce, September 26, a Federal loan of soybeans will be made in the near future, due to prospective heavy supplies and sagging prices. Commodity Credit Corporation officials say the AAA has made no formal application for the loan yet, but indicated favorable consideration would be forthcoming in the event the agency asks.

BRITISH SLASH BUTTER RATION

A CTPS dispatch from London, September 25, says that Food Minister Lord Woolton has announced "seasonal" changes in Britain's meat and butter rations. Starting Monday, the people will be permitted to buy $43\frac{1}{2}$ cents worth of meat a person weekly. That is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents more than the present allowance, but at the same time the butter ration will be cut 50% from four to two ounces a week.

LIVERPOOL COTTON EXCHANGE CLOSES TEMPORARILY

The New York Journal of Commerce, September 26, reports that the board of directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association yesterday determined to close the market for the next three business days, with trading to be resumed on Tuesday morning. While the cables report the closing to be due to "existing circumstances," the New York cotton trade believed that the action was due to increasing tightness of American spot cotton in the British market.

WHEAT, OATS REACH NEW SEASON HIGH

The CTPS, September 25, reports that grain markets turned upward Wednesday and May wheat and oats reached a new season high. Closing trades on wheat on the Chicago Board of Trade were at gains of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ cent on the old crop months, while July was unchanged. Oats showed independent strength and finished 1 to $1\frac{1}{8}$ cents higher.

ACQUISITION OF ARGENTINE WOOL, HIDES DISCUSSED

The New York Journal of Commerce, September 26, says that the acquisition of Argentine wool and hides by the U. S. Government to insure against any emergency shortage of these important industrial materials is being discussed currently in foreign trade circles, not only as a wise precautionary move for this country, but also as a partial solution for the troublesome Argentine-U.S. foreign trade problem.

Canada Looks For
Large Wheat Crop

From Ottawa: September 25, the CP says that present prospects are that the total value of the 1940 Western Canadian wheat crop will be somewhat higher than that of the 1939 crop, and a valuation of \$240,000,000 is expected.

D.C. Wants
Stamp Plan

The Washington Post, September 26, says that District Commissioners David McCoach, jr., and John Russell Young and Welfare Director Robert E. Bondy went to Baltimore Wednesday to study operation of the food stamp plan, and returned with the conviction that Washington should have a similar plan. Welfare officials have asked the Commissioners to provide \$150,000 in the 1942 budget to set the plan into operation.

Eat More Meat
Campaign Opens

The Washington Times-Herald, September 26, says that about 250 members of the Institute of American Meat Packers met in Washington Wednesday night to discuss the one-year advertising program that the Institute is launching to induce the American housewife to use more meat. C. H. Ruppert, chairman, said the program will be a means of restoring meat to its proper place in the diet. In the last 30 years, consumption of meat has dropped 30 pounds per capita per year.

Pan American
Coffee Quota Plan
Nearing Adoption

The New York Journal of Commerce, September 26, says that representatives of fourteen Latin American countries, the U. S. and the Pan American Union staff are striving to reach a conclusion in negotiations for adoption of a coffee quota plan, with the prospect of success within a day or two. Details of the conversations have been withheld, pending final action of the group which includes representatives of all the Pan American countries with the exception of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Panama, Bolivia and Chile.

Stamp Plan
Extensions

Secretary Wickard Wednesday announced the extension of the food stamp plan to the following counties: Marshall and Day, South Dakota; Ward, Stark, Kidder and Steele, North Dakota; and the following counties in Idaho: Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley and Washington.

New Orleans Low-
Cost Milk To
Be Continued

The Surplus Marketing Administration Tuesday accepted bids submitted by six milk handlers for Federal payments on a maximum of up to 19,500 quarts of milk a day for distribution to low-income families under the low-cost milk distribution program for New Orleans, Louisiana.

Hybrid Corn
Controls Borer

The Missouri Ruralist, September 14, says that the New Jersey Experiment Station is using hybrid corn to fight the corn borer menace in that state. New varieties have been found to stand up better than standard varieties under borer infestation and are being grown this year on about 8,000 acres of Jersey farm land.

McIntosh Apples
Successfully
Stored

In Country Gentleman, October, Paul Stark, Jr., tells of recent experiments at Cornell University by Prof. R. M. Smock and A. VanDoren, which have shown the value and commercial possibilities of using modified atmospheres to keep McIntosh apples for the late season market. McIntosh, a variety with a relatively short storage season under normal cold-storage conditions, were removed from modified atmosphere storage this May in perfect condition. Besides being in a good, solid condition, these apples had an increased market period of a week or more.

Butterfat Beats
Vegetable Oils
In Experiment

E. J. Perry of the New Jersey Experiment Station says, in Country Gentleman for October, that the Wisconsin College of Agriculture reports that butterfat has made a better showing than certain vegetable oils in the growing of white rats. The comparison was made with corn, coconut, cottonseed and soybean oils, and the rate of growth on butterfat was reported "consistently greater" than that of the animals fed skimmed milk to which the above oils had been added. The growth on the butterfat diet was also more economical.

Citrus Vs. Beet
Pulp As Feed

The Florida Grower, September, says that, after three years research, the University of Florida announces to dairymen that dried citrus pulp is equal to beet pulp in all respects -- and is slightly superior for production of milk. The study shows that cows which ate dried pulp of citrus instead of beet pulp gave slightly more milk, while those which ate beet pulp increased slightly more in weight. In milk samples, no flavor of either feed was passed into the milk.

"Skin Tests"
For Fabrics

Acid ester gum used as a finish for clothing fabrics has caused severe outbreaks of dermatitis, or skin inflammation, says an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association for September 14. The dermatitis cases, which have occurred in both the United States and Canada, were reported to public health officials, who found the gum to be the cause. The manufacturers concerned stopped using it. The U. S. Public Health Service recommends that all chemical and clothing manufacturers make skin tests of chemicals before applying them to clothing fabrics. A test developed by the PHS is described in the article.

BAE Summarizes
Wheat Situation

Wheat supplies in the United States for the year beginning July 1940 are now estimated at 1,068 million bushels, or 61 million bushels more than a year earlier. This total supply is 23 million bushels above the estimate of a month ago, the increase resulting from an upward revision in the spring wheat production estimate. Domestic disappearance for the year beginning July 1940 will be about 700 million bushels -- which would leave 368 million bushels for export to foreign countries and shipments to possessions in 1940-41 or for carry-over July 1, 1941, compared with 332 million bushels a year earlier. Export prospects remain uncertain. Exports and shipments for the season to date are running less than those of a year earlier, when they totaled 48 million bushels. (BAE.)

Hog Wallows
Valuable In
Summer

Farm News, September 15, says that Fred Hale, at the Texas Experiment Station, tested the value of the hog wallow to keep hogs cool during hot weather. All hogs in the test were self-fed the same ration in individual pans and all had shade. With the temperature averaging 83 degrees F. during June, July and August, the pigs having the use of wallows made an average gain of 14 pounds more gain per pig on ten pounds less feed requirement per 100 pounds gain.

Utah Irrigation
Project Described

Lamont Johnson writes, in Western Farm Life, September 15, on the Colorado River-Great Basin irrigation project. Including a large map of the entire project, the article says that William Peterson, director of the Utah Extension Service, has done more than any other one man to encourage water conservation in Utah and to make the state conscious of the irrigation potentialities of the Colorado River drainage system.

Defense Plan
Of Chemical
Society

Plans for a national defense program were announced at the Detroit meeting of the American Chemical Society. A complete census of all chemists and chemical engineers in the United States, recording in detail the specialized services they are prepared to undertake, will be taken at the request of the Executive Office of President Roosevelt. The society, with more than 25,000 members, is said to be the largest professional organization of its kind in the world. (Science, September 20.)

Paper Features
Hybrid Corn

Like the Ohio Farmer of the same date, Prairie Farmer, September 21, offers a "hybrid corn edition." There are more than a dozen articles, written by the breeders themselves, telling what they have achieved up to now in hybrid corn, and what they hope to accomplish in the future.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 63.

Section 1

September 27, 1940.

ECONOMIST SEES \$100,000,000,000 NATIONAL INCOME

"Dr. L. D. Edie, Wall Street economist, told the National Industrial Conference board that the nation's production would rise to capacity soon -- and remain there for the next two or three years," according to an AP dispatch of September 26, in the Baltimore Sun. "The national income probably is in the neighborhood of \$80,000,000,000, but if the national-defense program continues through 1942 and 1943 it is within the realm of possibility that the national income may rise to one hundred billion."

ARGENTINA TO RELAX BAN ON IMPORTS

Argentina's virtual embargo on American imports, clamped down on September 19, will be relaxed immediately, Finance Minister Frederico Pinedo announced tonight, according to an AP dispatch dated September 26 from Buenos Aires. The statement came a few hours after President Roosevelt signed into law the Congressional act boosting by \$500,000,000 the Export-Import Bank's capital for loans in Latin America. The lifting of the embargo was credited by some circles as a tacit achievement for Warren Lee Pierson, president of the Export-Import Bank.

HALF OF MATERIALS FOR DEFENSE ALREADY BOUGHT

Frank Bane, director of the division for state and local cooperation of the National Defense Commission, in a speech before the annual convention of the American Trade Association Executives, stated that the government had already acquired more than half the supplies and raw materials needed for its stock pile, according to the New York Times of September 27. In the four months that the commission has been operating, Mr. Bane said, \$6,000,000,000 in contracts have been let.

COTTON RISES IN NEW HIGH IN MOVE

"After some hesitation cotton prices rose yesterday to new high levels for the current move due to small receipts in the South and continued price fixing. Final quotations were 6 to 11 points net higher. Again there were no tenders on October contracts either here or in New Orleans. Apparently there are no indications of any deliveries on contract. The certificate stock was reduced to 1,208 bales, the smallest since the Southern delivery contract was inaugurated in September, 1929," according to the New York Herald Tribune of September 27.

Research Seeks
New Wood Uses
and Products

According to a Chicago dispatch to the New York Times dated September 26, the forty-third annual convention of the National Lumber Association appointed a seven-member committee to consider ways of financing a research laboratory with an operating budget of \$100,000 a year. The purpose of the laboratory will be to develop new outlets and new wood products.

Invention Points
to Profit Flax
Growing in South

According to the Atlanta Constitution of September 26, "Engineers at Georgia Tech announced September 25, that after five years of experimenting, a method has been perfected for removing the wood from flax fiber by machinery and for spinning the flax fiber with machinery now used in cotton mills. This development," it is stated, "removes the main obstacle to profitable flax growing in the south."

Children Study
Conservation

In American Forests, October, John C. Caldwell, discusses the education of children on the subject of conservation. He says that children in the Tennessee Valley are particularly fortunate, since the TVA is turning this region into a valley of "managed acres." The boys and girls of Van Buren County, Tennessee, situated in the wildest portion of Tennessee's Cumberland Mountains, study conservation and learn how to properly use the land that some day will be theirs to use -- or misuse.

Thompson Speaks
to Vegetable Men

The Market Growers Journal, September 15, contains the partial text of an address made by President A. C. Thompson to the 32nd annual convention of the Vegetable Growers of America at Philadelphia recently. Mr. Thompson's speech analyzes the vegetable industry from the producer's end. He says that handlers of vegetables generally prefer the food stamp plan, while growers seem mostly to like the direct purchase of the surplus.

Alabama Station
Aids Nurserymen

E. W. McElwee of Alabama Polytechnic Institute writes, in the Southern Florist and Nurseryman for September 20, on the work carried on at the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station in ornamental horticulture. This program, which was stated in 1936, was instituted (1) To study the adaptability of various methods of shading and lighting to Alabama conditions; (2) To work out methods of producing in Alabama many of the cut flowers that now have to be shipped in; and (3) To solve the problems of the Alabama florist and nurseryman.

Wheat Rallies
and Falls Back

An AP dispatch from Chicago, September 26, says that wheat attempted another rally today, during which December contracts rose about $\frac{1}{8}$ cent to 80 $\frac{3}{8}$, highest in more than three months, but profit taking and weakness of July, 1941, deliveries were too much to overcome.

"Strongest
Yarn" to be
Made in U.S.

"The strongest yarn in the world" is going to be available to American industry, defense, and fashion, says Business Week for September 21, which reports that special machinery for making the yarn is being installed in a new plant in Virginia. The new textile fiber -- which has been used in British parachutes with success -- is described as a "strong acetate," or a cellulose acetate yarn, which by a special spinning process acquires both "wet" and "dry" strengths claimed to be greater than natural or synthetic fiber. The new product will be used at first only for such products as parachutes, high-strength cordage, powder bags, and filter cloths.

Florida Poultry
Men to Stamp Eggs

The American Egg and Poultry Review, September, says that the Florida Poultry Producers' Association has approved a plan for stamping eggs to promote sales and protect against the possibility of out-of-state eggs being sold in the state as fresh Florida products.

Consumers' Guide
Has Defense Issue

The September Consumers' Guide comes in the form of a "Food and National Defense Issue." Harriet Elliott, Consumer Commissioner on the National Defense Advisory Commission, writes a foreword, in which she says: "This, then, is our job, not all of it, but a vital part: Let us make every American strong, stronger than ever before, sturdier in body, steadier in nerves, surer in living."

No Scours With
Soybean Meal

Wallaces' Farmer, September 21, says that tests at the Illinois Experiment Station have disproved an old belief among farmers that soybean oil meal is too laxative for fattening cattle. The experiments indicate that it can be fed rather heavily with good results. Hereford calves getting a basal ration of shelled corn and hay or silage roughage showed no significant scouring, even when twice the usual amount of soybean meal was fed.

New York's Milk
Problem Discussed

Holton V. Noyes writes, in Hoard's Dairyman for September 25, on "Fundamentals of the Milk Problem in New York." He discusses the magnitude of the milk problem, the difficulties peculiar to the distribution of milk, and the way that these problems have been tackled in New York State.

Canned Fruit
Inspection

A Baltimore company announced recently that it would distribute a complete line of Grade A canned fruits, packed under continuous supervision of USDA inspectors in two California plants, says Business Week for September 21. The California plants were the first packers to adopt the Department's grading and inspection program.

Correction

On page 4 of the September 20 issue of the Daily Digest, mention is made of an article by Dr. Eric Englund on the influence of the war on the fruit industry. The source is given as Better Fruit for September, but the article appears instead, in the September issue of the American Fruit Grower.

Carbohydrates
in Fruits,
Vegetables.

Using improved methods of analysis, four members of the Washington University School of Medicine have worked out a new classification of the carbohydrate values of fruits and vegetables described in Modern Medicine for September. They believe most of the present accepted carbohydrate values for fruits and vegetables are too high.

Pure Bred
Cows Excel

"We are interested in noting a comparison made lately by the Wisconsin farm and dairy records office and the U. S. Department of Agriculture between the production of 1,226 pure bred cattle and 2,376 grade cattle, a typical cross-section survey of average Wisconsin herds managed largely in the same way, it is said. In effect, the production credited to the pure bred cows averaged 8,785 pounds of milk, with 337 pounds butter fat; whereas that of the grades averaged 7,889 pounds milk, with 312 pounds of butter fat. The survey thereafter goes into the average feed consumed and the gross margin over feed costs in comparing the two groups resulting in a six dollar advantage for the pure breds per year. We do not consider the last half of the same as good material for public digestion as the original part relating to total production." (The Wisconsin Agriculturist, September 21.)

Army and Navy
Use of Virginia
Apples Urged

Efforts to interest the Army and Navy in the use of Virginia apples, now being harvested in some 20 Virginia counties are being made by the Virginia Horticultural Society and the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce, says the Richmond Times Dispatch of September 27. This week a delegation called on officials in Washington in charge of purchasing and laid facts and figures before them on the advisability of purchasing Virginia fruit.

Canada Levies
Process Tax
on Wheat

A processing tax of 15 cents a bushel on wheat for human consumption is being levied in Canada. Canada has been paying a fixed price for wheat without acreage control and has been running into increased production and big governmental expenses as a result, according to the Wallaces' Farmer of September 21.

New Patent
Dates Eggs

A recently patented device which marks the date automatically on an egg, as it is being candled, is described in Science News Letter for September 28. As the candler holds the egg to the light, a rubber stamp marks it.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 64

Section 1

September 30, 1940.

EVANS DENIES
POLITICS IN AAA
CHECK SPEED-UP

The Baltimore Sun, September 29, says that R.M. Evans, Agricultural Adjustment Administrator, asserted Saturday that any speeding up of benefit payments to farmers this year, so that checks arrive earlier than usual, is evidence of "increasing efficiency," and is "in no way connected with politics." Mr. Evans made this statement with reference to a survey, conducted by the Omaha World-Herald, reporting that farmers' checks were being distributed ahead of schedule in the Nebraska and Iowa counties through which Willkie was traveling this week.

LIVERPOOL MARKET
CLOSING MAY BE
CONTINUED

The New York Times, September 30, says that the decision to close the Liverpool cotton futures market for the maximum period of three days was, it is understood, taken in order to prevent loss to traders who, through no action of their own, might have found the circumstances difficult if dealings had been allowed to continue. Although the position may be clarified quickly, the market is prepared for the extension of the standstill.

BROOKINGS REPORTS
ON PRICE CONTROL
TO WAR DEPARTMENT

The Washington Post, September 30, says that the Brookings Institute, at the request of the War Department, has made a study of price control methods during national defense preparations. The report states that the industrial mobilization plan of the War Department could not prevent a run-away price inflation that might disrupt the Nation's defense effort. Noting that the present defense program is comparable economically to a war program, the study advised repeal of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the Walsh-Healey Act and the Wage-Hour law as soon as full employment is achieved.

CASH BASIS WHEAT
BECOMING SCARCE

From Chicago, a New York Times dispatch, September 29, says that supplies of cash wheat available for purchase by mills in many parts of the country are reported as becoming exceptionally scarce, as the result of the large quantity of grain, either pledged for security for government loans or held off the market by producers who are waiting for higher prices.

French Go On
Rations Today

From Vichy, September 29, the CTPS says that the French population will go on rations beginning today. For the last few weeks housewives have had to present ration card coupons in order to purchase seven items of food. Hereafter, all restaurant menus will indicate after all dishes which are made of rationed food and the number of ration tickets required before they can be served, as well as the price.

Frost Again Hits
Canadian Tobacco

The AP, September 27, reports that Ontario's tobacco industry is hard hit, after a second serious frost last week practically wiped out all tobacco which had not been harvested. Loss was between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 pounds with a cash loss estimated at from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000.

Stamp Plan
Extensions

Secretary Wickard has recently extended the food stamp plan to include the following localities: Seward, Nebraska, and the rest of Seward County; Jasper, Alabama, and the rest of Walker County; and Enid, Oklahoma, and the rest of Garfield County.

UP Surveys Supply-
Demand Situation

The UP, September 30, announces two facts revealed by a survey of supply and demand recently made. 1) The cost of living rose less than five percent during the first year of the conflict abroad, with major part of the increase reflecting supply and demand factors, rather than war repercussions, and 2) During the same period wages and salaries advanced more rapidly than living costs, resulting in an increase in consumers' purchasing power.

British Cotton
Trade Holding On

From London, September 29, a New York Times dispatch says that the Economist, reporting on the domestic trade situation, notes that industry is adjusting itself rapidly to the new conditions imposed by the intensified air raids. It is noted that the cotton trade has not suffered, spinning activity in the month being ninety percent of production capacity, the same as in the previous month, and comparing with seventy-five percent a year ago.

Redeeming Time
For Loan Corn
Extended

Secretary Wickard, announced Friday that the time within which farmers may obtain the release of their farm-stored 1937 and 1938 corn pledged to Commodity Credit Corporation has been extended from October 1 to October 31, 1940. The price at which corn may be redeemed, as previously announced, is 58 cents per bushel on farm stored corn.

Oct. 1-31 Stamp
Plan Surplus
Foods Announced

The Department of Agriculture has announced the official list of surplus foods available to families taking part in the Food Order Stamp Plan for the period October 1 through October 31. These are foods which can be obtained with the blue food stamps at local stores in Stamp Plan areas. Irish potatoes, a food staple of the entire Nation, have been added to the nationally listed surplus foods designated for the October 1 - 31 period. With this exception, the list of nationally designated foods is the same for October as it was for the September 2 - 30 period.

Nationally designated blue stamp foods for all Stamp Plan areas for the October 1 - 31 period are: Irish potatoes, apples, pears, oranges, butter, raisins, rice, pork lard, all pork (except that cooked or packed in metal or glass containers) corn meal, shell eggs, dried prunes, hominy grits, dry edible beans, wheat flour, and whole wheat (Graham) flour. In addition to the national designations of surplus foods, seasonal fresh vegetables will be available in the different Stamp Plan areas for the October 1 - 31 period.

Low Cost Milk
For N.Y. Schools

Paul H. Appleby, acting Secretary of Agriculture, Saturday approved a low-cost milk distribution program that would provide up to a maximum of about 21,000,000 half pints of milk to nearly 30,000 needy children in 164 schools in low-income areas of New York City, during a test period this fall.

Argentina Lifts
Restriction On
U.S. Apples, Pears

Effective September 27, the Argentina Government relaxed its exchange restrictions so as to permit the importation of United States apples and pears without limit up to December 31 of this year, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the USDA said today.

Post War Problems
To Hit Farmers
Says Wilson

The Chicago Tribune, September 27, says that M.L. Wilson, director of extension, told a conference of land use experts in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, that the problems faced by the farmer after the present war will be greater than those after the world war. "Regardless of who wins the war," he said, "the difficulties with trade exports will be tremendous."

Bishop Advocates
Family-Sized
Farms

The New York Times, September 30, says that Bishop Vincent Ryan, of Bismarck, N.D., told the Catholic Rural Life Conference, in St. Cloud, Minnesota, that the best and, in fact, only antidote to communism in America is the wide-spread distribution of family-sized, owner-operated farms. Expressing a belief that industry could never again absorb the vast army of the unemployed, Bishop Ryan advocated the resettlement of such employees on family-sized farms or, at least, on subsistence homesteads.

Senate Ratifies
Havana Agreement

The Washington Post, September 28, says that on Friday, the Senate, after a brief debate, ratified the Havana pact by which 21 republics of the Western Hemisphere agree to prevent the transfer of any European colony in the Americas to another non-American state.

Grapefruit
Hearing Called

A public hearing on a proposed Federal marketing agreement program for "desert grapefruit" produced in Arizona and designated areas of California will open at 10 a.m. October 15 at the High School Auditorium, Yuma, Arizona, the Surplus Marketing Administration announced Friday. The proposal would provide for adjusting of the grade and size composition of shipments of grapefruit in interstate commerce and to Canada.

AMS Reviews
Cotton Market

Cotton prices moved upward during most of the week but dropped on Friday, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service. The basis weakened further as spot prices declined slightly and futures prices were up for the week. Activity in spot cotton markets increased less than seasonally. Domestic mill activity was apparently well maintained at high levels during the first three weeks in September. Cloth markets were active again this week although sales were reported somewhat below the heavy volume during the preceding week. Exports for the week were down sharply.

Japan To Reduce
Cotton Imports

Japanese imports of raw cotton from all countries during the 1940-41 season are not expected to exceed 1,700,000 bales compared with 2,123,000 bales imported in 1939-40, according to Foreign Crops and Markets. Probable imports from the United States are placed at 500,000 bales compared with 900,000 bales in 1939-40. Several reasons are given for the anticipated reduction in imports. Outstanding among them are the poor prospects for a revival in export outlets for finished goods and the record accumulation of unsold piecegoods and yarn stocks.

Argentina, Brazil
Plan Trade Accord

From Buenos Aires, September 29, the Washington Post reports that Brazil and Argentina laid the groundwork Sunday for a trade conference starting Thursday in which the two nations are expected to fall in step with the United States' plan for closer Western Hemisphere cooperation. "Informed sources" in Buenos Aires said the conference would try to arrange for the exchange of surpluses on a barter basis.

